

EVENT PLAN

TODAY'S DATE: April 12, 2012

Event: Sportsmen for Bristol Bay

Purpose: Discussion with sportsmen as it relates to the Bristol Bay fishery and U.S. government action

Overview:

- In 2010 and 2011, nine federally recognized tribes from the Bristol Bay region and other stakeholders (including over 500 sporting groups and businesses) asked EPA to take action to protect Bristol Bay's salmon populations. They have expressed concern that the significant Bristol Bay salmon fishery would be at risk from large-scale mining.
- EPA also heard from other tribes and stakeholders who support development in the Bristol Bay watershed and have requested we take no action until a permitting process begins.
- In February 2011, EPA launched its Bristol Bay Assessment to better understand the watershed and its resources. The assessment will inform the agency's response to these competing requests.
- Sporting groups and businesses have expressed support for EPA's Bristol Bay Assessment but have urged EPA to also use its Clean Water Act 404(c) authority to protect the Bristol Bay fishery.
- The draft Assessment due out in early May documents the commercial and recreational value of the watershed, as well as its importance to the living style and culture of Alaskan natives.
- Even a single mine in the watershed presents multiple risks to the watershed and fishery resource. And there is a potential for additional mines which would increase the risks which include tailings, dam failure, seepage into surface and groundwater, pipeline failures, and road culvert failures.
- Attending sportsmen will want to know if EPA is on schedule to release the draft Assessment.

Date: Monday, April 16, 2012

Run of Show:

11:30 - 11:32 Dru Ealons, Welcome; Administrator Introduction

11:32 - 11:36 Chris Wood, President and CEO, Trout Unlimited

- Chris introduces Sportsmen for Bristol Bay
- Recap of 10 AM meeting with White House
- Overview of hunter/angler efforts to build support for EPA and the Administration on this issue

11:36 - 11:40 (name TBD) Pollster from Benenson Group

- Description of recent national polling and results regarding sportsmen attitudes about protecting Bristol Bay

11:40 - 11:44 Jason Metrokin, President and CEO, Bristol Bay Native Corporation

- BBNC's commitment to responsible development
- The economic importance of hunting and angling in Bristol Bay

11:44 - 11:48 Whit Fosburgh, President and CEO, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

- Overview of TRCP and position on Bristol Bay
- Upcoming public push from hunters and anglers for a 404c Action

11:48 - 12:00 General Discussion / Q&A

12:00 Administrator Departs

12:00 - 12:30 Continued discussion with Sportsmen and EPA Management & Staff

Timing of Administrator's Attendance: 30 min

Location:

Green Room
Ariel Rios Building, HQ

Remarks Required: No

Background:

- The Bristol Bay Sportsmen Summit will take place on April 16 - 17 in Washington, DC. Sportsmen leaders from around the country are traveling to DC to ensure that Bristol Bay, Alaska is protected for future generations of American Sportsmen.
- Bristol Bay is the source of 40% of the nation's sockeye salmon, provides an estimated annual economic contribution of over \$500 million, and provides 12,000 existing jobs.
- The leaders traveling to DC represent hundreds of thousands of hunters and anglers around the county and wish to convey their concerns about the Pebble mine and share their plans to support the EPA during the Watershed Assessment and into the initiation of a CWA 404c action if it is supported by science.
- EPA's watershed assessment is nearing completion and timing for any subsequent actions will be critical.

EPA Staff:

- Lisa P. Jackson, Administrator

- Bob Sussman, Senior Advisor
- Dru Ealons, Director, Office of Public Engagement
- Nancy Stoner, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Water
- Lek Kadeli, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Research and Development
- Benita Best-Wong, Deputy Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
- Jeffrey B. Frithsen, Ph.D., Chief, Exposure Analysis and Risk Characterization Group, Office of Research and Development
- Palmer Hough, Environmental Scientist, Wetlands Division, Office of Water

Media Coverage: None

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